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We think the Udall bill, taken together with administration proposals for amending it, gives the right answer. It is to keep development orderly and within limited areas that may only be expanded when the need is compelling. That protects against environmental waste that the nation would later regret—as has so often happened in the "lower 48." It also conserves not only scenery but a storehouse of economic resources which Americans may need much more in the future than they do now. In the perspective of decades or a century setting aside 100 million acres is only prudent. That is the long-range public interest which this year's legislation should reflect.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

(Mr. STOKES asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I think it appropriate that the House—and through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD interested citizens—be brought up to date on the general posture of the Select Committee on Assassinations and its structure in conducting its investigations into the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For this purpose, I would like to insert into the RECORD an edited version of the report the Select Committee recently submitted to the Committee on House Administration when we proposed our budget for this year. The only material deleted from the report is statistical graphs that cannot be reproduced in the RECORD. Copies of the entire report may be obtained directly from the Select Committee's offices.

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REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION, TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSION OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED 1978 BUDGET TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

I. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND MANDATE

The Select Committee on Assassinations (the committee) was first established in the second session of the 94th Congress by House Resolution 1540, 122 Cong. Rec. 141 at H10356 (September 17, 1976). The 95th Congress reconstituted the committee by House Resolution 222, 123 Cong. Rec. 19 at H800 (February 2, 1977) and extended its duration for the length of the 95th Congress by House Resolution 433, 123 Cong. Rec. 56 at H2739 (March 30, 1977). House Resolution 760, 123 Cong. Rec. 153 at H10254 (September 28, 1977) granted the committee authority to make applications to courts for grants of immunity and other limited purposes, and to bring and defend lawsuits in particular types of cases in order to obtain information relevant to the committee's inquiry.

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The size of the committee staff has reached the level of 115 contemplated by the 1977 budget. It is envisioned that the number of personnel will remain at approximately 115 for most of 1978.

The organization of the staff is designed to facilitate the implementation of the investigative plans that have been formulated for each case. The chief counsel, who was appointed on July 1, 1977, heads the entire staff. The substantive investigation is divided into two task forces, one to investigate the death of President Kennedy and another to investigate the death of Dr. King. Each task force is headed by a deputy chief counsel and then further subdivided to focus on particular issues that have been identified. The 5 individual teams on each task force are composed of a combination of attorneys, investigators and researchers that work together on particular areas or issues.

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D. Security considerations

The security of information obtained during the investigation has been of paramount concern to the select committee. It is important that information be kept secure for at least four reasons. First, a breach in security could jeopardize leads the committee is pursuing by giving subjects of the investigation premature notice of the focus of the committee's inquiry and an opportunity to tailor testimony or destroy evidence. Second, the committee has a responsibility to isolate testimony obtained under a grant of immunity. The immunity grant prevents only the use of a witness' immunized testimony and leads derived from that testimony from being used against that witness in a subsequent prosecution. A subsequent prosecution may still be brought against a witness provided the prosecutor does not present the immunized testimony or evidence derived from the immunized testimony of the witness before the committee. Complete isolation of immunized testimony is vital to enable the Government to meet its burden of demonstrating that evidence presented in a criminal case is not derived from immunized testimony. Guaranteeing the security of witness' testimony therefore preserves the Justice Department's option to prosecute committee witnesses upon whom the committee has conferred immunity. Third, security breaches could undermine the committee's ongoing relationship with executive agencies which furnish information to the committee only upon the condition that information be kept secure. Fourth, any leak of information not yet corroborated could unfairly defame or degrade innocent persons.

As a result, the committee has adopted stringent security procedures. All staff members on the committee have received or are in the process of receiving a "top secret" security clearance. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, as an accommodation to the committee, conducts the background investigations for these security clearances. The Central Intelligence Agency then reviews the background investigations done by the FBI. After consultation with the FBI and CIA, the full committee makes the determination regarding an individual's security clearance.

The committee's offices have a police officer on duty 24 hours a day. All material is stored in secure safes or containers. Appropriate security protection devices surround the committee's offices.

E. Special projects

In addition to reviewing documents, interviewing witnesses, and taking testimony at hearings, the committee has commenced a number of special projects to assist it in its analysis of several crucial issues in each investigation. Some of these projects have never before been undertaken to evaluate available evidence concerning the assassinations. In other cases, advances in scientific technology will allow issues to be analyzed in significantly greater depth and detail than was possible at the time of the assassinations.

The committee has employed many consultants to assist on these projects, particularly in those projects which apply scientific techniques. The following statistics reflect the expansion in the committee's use of expert consultants as the investigations have proceeded.

Total consultants under contract, 1977

January to June	0
July	4
August	13
September	22
October	23
November	28
December	28

The following pages briefly describe some of the projects the committee currently has in progress.

1. Medical Evidence

The committee is analyzing the medical evidence in each assassination to assist it both in resolving basic issues concerning the assassination and in evaluating the conduct of various individuals and institutions subsequent to the assassination.

In the Kennedy investigation, the committee has retained as consultants nine leading forensic pathologists to determine the nature and causes of the wounds inflicted upon President Kennedy and Governor Connally. The pathologists met in panels to review the available medical evidence, which includes autopsy photos, X-rays, clothing and bullet fragments. The pathologists also viewed relevant photographs of the assassination. In the course of their analyses, the pathologists recommended the following projects, which the select committee is currently undertaking: (1) soft X-ray and EDX testing to determine if the clothing Governor Connally and President Kennedy wore at the time of the assassination contains any metal tracings and if so, what type of metal; (2) enhancement of the most important JFK and Connally X-rays to afford a more detailed examination of the X-rays; (3) the retention of a radiologist to provide expert analysis of the X-rays; (4) consultation with an expert in anatomy and physical anthropology to study the origin of the particular bone fragments; and (5) interviews with the doctors who treated Governor Connally and performed the autopsy on President Kennedy.

In conjunction with the forensic pathologists' work, the committee will also examine the evidence and perform tests to insure that the photographs and X-rays being examined are authentic.

The committee is also completing an inventory of all items of physical evidence pertaining to the autopsy and medical evidence which existed in 1963. The committee will attempt to locate any materials which are not currently accounted for, in order to insure that the forensic pathologists have the maximum available evidentiary basis on which to rest their conclusions.

The investigation into the assassination of Dr. King will also employ pathologists to analyze issues that may be resolved by an examination of the medical evidence. Special projects similar to those recommended by the pathologists and undertaken by the committee in conjunction with the Kennedy investigation will be performed, where appropriate, to assist the pathologists in their examination of the medical evidence relevant to Dr. King.

2. Ballistics

In both the Kennedy and King investigations, a careful analysis of all the ballistic evidence available is being conducted both to evaluate the investigations that were performed regarding each assassination, as well as enable the committee to reach an independent conclusion concerning the identity of the assassin(s). Ballistics tests serve to identify the rifles that fired bullets found at the scene of a shooting. The committee has assembled a panel of ballistics and firearms experts to perform such an analysis. Exhaustive microscopic, visual, chemical analyses, and test firings, where appropriate, have been or will be performed on each item of ballistic evidence. The firearms and ballistics panels will submit reports to the committee describing their findings and responding to a series of questions that the committee has propounded.

3. Wound Ballistics

The field of wound ballistics coordinates an analysis of the effect of impact upon a bullet and its target. The committee is considering assembling a panel of consultants in this area to assist it in resolving questions concerning the number, direction and type of bullets which were involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. The committee also is considering securing expert evaluation of the wound ballistics testing conducted by the Warren Commission.

4. Photographs and Computers

The analysis work which is being done by the committee on available photographic evidence relates primarily to the Kennedy investigation. Over 1,000 photographs have been collected by the staff. Of this amount, the committee will select appropriate photographs for extensive analysis. The analysis will consist of four basic categories. The first category is authentication of photographs. The second category will involve the enhancement of particular pictures taken in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963. The third category of analysis employs specialized techniques to identify individuals not readily recognizable in a photograph. Finally, the fourth category of analysis will be a trajectory study, which will attempt to trace outward from the President the trajectory of the bullets which struck him. This approach to determine the trajectory of the bullets has not been attempted previously. Prior trajectory studies commenced with tracing from the assumed location of the assassin as opposed to tracing from the location of the President's wounds.

Several of the categories of photographic analysis involve the use of computers to assist in the analysis. All of the photographic analysis will be done under the direction and supervision of a panel of expert consultants with backgrounds in photo enhancement, photo interpretation, computers, and photographic measurements. The panel will meet with the organizations responsible for doing the actual enhancement work, and will establish the guidelines and procedures under which this work will be done. Once the work has been completed, the panel of experts will be responsible for evaluating the results, making any necessary interpretations of the evidence, and submitting a report to the committee.

5. Acoustics

The acoustical project is designed to utilize sound recordings made contemporaneously with the assassination of President Kennedy in Dealey Plaza on November 22, 1963. From original sound recordings, it is now possible to illustrate the audible sounds by means of a computer printout of decible frequencies. An expert analysis of these decible frequencies may enable the committee to determine the number, direction and timing sequence of the shots fired in Dealey Plaza.

An acoustical analysis of the Kennedy assassination has not been conducted by an official investigating body. The quality of the analysis is limited by the quality and quantity of the original or primary sound recordings. The committee is seeking to trace the location of all known original recordings. Suitable original recordings, if located, will significantly assist the committee in resolving issues concerning the events in Dealey Plaza.

6. Handwriting

There are several issues in both the Kennedy and King investigations which may be resolved by the use of handwriting analysis. As an example, the authenticity of numerous documents may be checked to determine if they were written or signed by particular individuals. The committee will assemble a group of experts in handwriting analysis to perform the necessary examination and prepare a report for the committee.

IV. COMPARISON OF 1977 BUDGET WITH ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES FOR 1977

On April 28, 1977, the House passed House Resolution 465 which funded the committee for 1977 in the amount of $2,514,400. Due to the delay in staffing, it is anticipated that the committee will return approximately $425,000 to the House contingency fund. The following is a comparison of the 1977 budget with estimated expenditures:

	1977 approved budget	1977 estimated expenditures
I. Salaries	$1,837,700	$1,700,000
II. Travel	400,000	175,000
III. Consultants	96,600	96,600
IV. Witnesses	40,000	15,000
V. Stationery and supplies	36,500	30,000
VI. Telephone and telegraph	50,000	30,000
VII. Equipment—(purchase)	5,600	0
VIII. Equipment—(lease)	25,000	20,000
IX. Reproductions, printing, and graphics	16,000	20,000
X. Books and periodicals	2,000	2,800
XI. Miscellaneous	5,000	0
Total	2,514,400	2,089,400

V. CONCLUSION

The committee is in the process of gathering evidence by field investigation and interviews, and the taking of testimony in executive session. Each investigation is following a carefully formulated and detailed plan designed to resolve significant issues concerning that assassination and to fulfill the committee's legislative mandate.

As the investigation proceeds, the committee is evaluating the credibility of witnesses who have appeared before it in executive session, and corroborating or disproving numerous allegations that have arisen concerning each assassination. Until such a process of evaluation and corroboration is complete, any conclusions on particular theories or investigative leads would be premature and inappropriate. The committee's proposed budget will enable the committee to implement its investigative plans, and ultimately to fulfill its legislative mandate.

CONGRESSMAN JAMES A. BURKE HONORED BY TEACHERS AND SENIOR CITIZENS

(Mr. ANNUNZIO asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. ANNUNZIO. Mr. Speaker, it is a genuine pleasure for me to congratulate our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Hon. JAMES A. BURKE, who is chairman of the Social Security Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, who is being honored for the outstanding leadership he has provided in efforts to improve the social security system.

Congressman BURKE long as favored a reduction in social security taxes, an increase in the wage base, and the use of general revenues to boost the financially plagued system.

In order to mark Mr. BURKE's special contributions in the social security field over the years, the Massachusetts' Council of Social Studies Teachers and the Golden Ring Council of Senior Citizens will honor him at a luncheon on Friday, March 3, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel.

At the luncheon, prizes will be awarded to 130 Massachusetts' students for writing winning essays on the topic, "How Does Social Security Fulfill the American Way of Life?" Congressman BURKE is honorary chairman of the social security essay contest for high school students which is sponsored by the Golden Ring Council, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Commonwealth Department of Education. Participation is limited to junior and senior Massachusetts' high school students who have spent about 4 months doing research before writing their essays. Prizes for the winning essays range from $25 to $300.

Assisting in the award presentations will be Congressman BURKE, Gov. Michael Dukakis, State Commissioner of Education Gregory Anrig, Acting Social Security Commissioner Don I. Wortman, former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Wilbur Cohen, former Commissioner of Social Security Robert M. Ball, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Sol Chaiken, and others.

Mr. BURKE has served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security ever since the various subcommittees were established for the Ways and Means Committee. He is respected and highly regarded for the expertise he has developed in this field, and he is truly deserving of the recognition which will be extended to him at the luncheon on Friday.

Once again, I extend to him my sincerest congratulations on this recognition and my best wishes for continued productive service in behalf of his constituents from the 11th District of Massachusetts as well as in behalf of all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to several previously scheduled meetings in my district with constituents, I unavoidably missed the legislative session of Friday, February 24, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: H.R. 9757, grazing fee moratorium of 1977, rollcall No. 83, "yes"; H.R. 3377, Wichita Indian Tribe lands claim, rollcall No. 85, "yes."

Due to my attending a hearing held in New York State by the Employee Ethics and Utilization Subcommittee of the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, of which I am a member, I missed a recorded quorum call and part of other legislative business scheduled for Monday, February 27, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: House Concurrent Resolution 464, home rule charter amendment for initiative and referendum (District of Columbia) rollcal No. 87, "yes."

On Friday, January 20, 1978, I was out of the country on official business with Committee on International Relations, of which I am a member, and missed that day's legislative session. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following fashion: H.R. 2329, Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1977, rollcall No. 3, "yes."

FULL RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA IS NOT ADVANTAGEOUS TO UNITED STATES

(Mr. SIKES asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, the drive to have the United States give full recognition to Red China and abandon our strong and productive ties with Taiwan seems to have abated. Normalization of relations with China is not of particular importance to the United States. Our commerce with that country is limited. There is little to indicate any significant growth in trade between us.

Apart from trade, the moral principle involved if the United States were to abandon an old and friendly ally simply to win the favor of one Communist regime is unthinkable. Normal relations with China should depend entirely on the benefits, if any, to be gained directly from our association with Red China and upon application of Mr. Carter's vaunted human rights program.

With U.S. ties, friendship and support, Japan, Taiwan, and Korea stand as significant bastions of the free enterprise system. Each of them has standards of living far higher than any Asian Communist country. The rights of the people in each of the three, despite critical comment from the American left, are clearly more real than any rights claimed for the nations under Communist control.

An article in the New York Times, February 14, entitled "Now, 'Boat People' From Taiwan?" by Peter Berger deals in a very impresive way with the moral as well as the practical story of Taiwan and our relations with the entire area. I submit it for reprinting in the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, Feb. 14, 1978]

NOW, "BOAT PEOPLE" FROM TAIWAN?

(By Peter Berger)

Week after week, the small boats come out of southern Vietnam. Their cargo of desperation is a cross-section of the people. Half are children. The adults are young and old, professionals and peasants, former supporters of the regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu and individuas whose politics are limited to the desire to escape from the steel blanket of totalitarianism spread over their country since "liberation." One supposes that they must know the risks. They keep on coming still, in the thousands.

Nobody wants them. On the high seas, ships pass them by (in flagrant violation of international law). There is no telling how many have already perished at sea—by drowning, by hunger and thirst, or by illness.

If they reach the coasts of one of the neighboring countries, they risk being pushed out to sea again at gun-point. Or they may be thrown into dismal camps, often after being robbed, beaten or raped. Only then do they have a chance—a very slim chance—of being selected for immigration to one of the Western countries.

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IV. COMPARISON OF 1977 BUDGET WITH ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES FOR 1977

On April 28, 1977, the House passed House Resolution 465 which funded the committee for 1977 in the amount of $2,514,400. Due to the delay in staffing, it is anticipated that the committee will return approximately $425,000 to the House contingency fund. The following is a comparison of the 1977 budget with estimated expenditures:

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V. CONCLUSION

The committee is in the process of gathering evidence by field investigation and interviews, and the taking of testimony in executive session. Each investigation is following a carefully formulated and detailed plan designed to resolve significant issues concerning that assassination and to fulfill the committee's legislative mandate.

As the investigation proceeds, the committee is evaluating the credibility of witnesses who have appeared before it in executive session, and corroborating or disproving numerous allegations that have arisen concerning each assassination. Until such a process of evaluation and corroboration is complete, any conclusions on particular theories or investigative leads would be premature and inappropriate. The committee's proposed budget will enable the committee to implement its investigative plans, and ultimately to fulfill its legislative mandate.

CONGRESSMAN JAMES A. BURKE HONORED BY TEACHERS AND SENIOR CITIZENS

(Mr. ANNUNZIO asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. ANNUNZIO. Mr. Speaker, it is a genuine pleasure for me to congratulate our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Hon. JAMES A. BURKE, who is chairman of the Social Security Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, who is being honored for the outstanding leadership he has provided in efforts to improve the social security system.

Congressman BURKE long as favored a reduction in social security taxes, an increase in the wage base, and the use of general revenues to boost the financially plagued system.

In order to mark Mr. BURKE'S special contributions in the social security field over the years, the Massachusetts' Council of Social Studies Teachers and the Golden Ring Council of Senior Citizens will honor him at a luncheon on Friday, March 3, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel.

At the luncheon, prizes will be awarded to 130 Massachusetts' students for writing winning essays on the topic, "How Does Social Security Fulfill the American Way of Life?" Congressman BURKE is honorary chairman of the social security essay contest for high school students which is sponsored by the Golden Ring Council, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Commonwealth Department of Education. Participation is limited to junior and senior Massachusetts' high school students who have spent about 4 months doing research before writing their essays. Prizes for the winning essays range from $25 to $300.

Assisting in the award presentations will be Congressman BURKE, Gov. Michael Dukakis, State Commissioner of Education Gregory Anrig, Acting Social Security Commissioner Don I. Wortman, former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Wilbur Cohen, former Commissioner of Social Security Robert M. Ball, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Sol Chaiken, and others.

Mr. BURKE has served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security ever since the various subcommittees were established for the Ways and Means Committee. He is respected and highly regarded for the expertise he has developed in this field, and he is truly deserving of the recognition which will be extended to him at the luncheon on Friday.

Once again, I extend to him my sincerest congratulations on this recognition and my best wishes for continued productive service in behalf of his constituents from the 11th District of Massachusetts as well as in behalf of all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to several previously scheduled meetings in my district with constituents, I unavoidably missed the legislative session of Friday, February 24, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: H.R. 9757, grazing fee moratorium of 1977, rollcall No. 83, "yes"; H.R. 3377, Wichita Indian Tribe lands claim, rollcall No. 85, "yes."

Due to my attending a hearing held in New York State by the Employee Ethics and Utilization Subcommittee of the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, of which I am a member, I missed a recorded quorum call and part of other legislative business scheduled for Monday, February 27, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: House Concurrent Resolution 464, home rule charter amendment for initiative and referendum (District of Columbia) rollcal No. 87, "yes."

On Friday, January 20, 1978, I was out of the country on official business with Committee on International Relations, of which I am a member, and missed that day's legislative session. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following fashion: H.R. 2329, Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1977, rollcall No. 3, "yes."

FULL RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA IS NOT ADVANTAGEOUS TO UNITED STATES

(Mr. SIKES asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, the drive to have the United States give full recognition to Red China and abandon our strong and productive ties with Taiwan seems to have abated. Normalization of relations with China is not of particular importance to the United States. Our commerce with that country is limited. There is little to indicate any significant growth in trade between us.

Apart from trade, the moral principle involved if the United States were to abandon an old and friendly ally simply to win the favor of one Communist regime is unthinkable. Normal relations with China should depend entirely on the benefits, if any, to be gained directly from our association with Red China and upon application of Mr. Carter's vaunted human rights program.

With U.S. ties, friendship and support, Japan, Taiwan, and Korea stand as significant bastions of the free enterprise system. Each of them has standards of living far higher than any Asian Communist country. The rights of the people in each of the three, despite critical comment from the American left, are clearly more real than any rights claimed for the nations under Communist control.

An article in the New York Times, February 14, entitled "Now, 'Boat People' From Taiwan?" by Peter Berger deals in a very impresive way with the moral as well as the practical story of Taiwan and our relations with the entire area. I submit it for reprinting in the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, Feb. 14, 1978]

NOW, "BOAT PEOPLE" FROM TAIWAN?

(By Peter Berger)

Week after week, the small boats come out of southern Vietnam. Their cargo of desperation is a cross-section of the people. Half are children. The adults are young and old, professionals and peasants, former supporters of the regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu and individuas whose politics are limited to the desire to escape from the steel blanket of totalitarianism spread over their country since "liberation." One supposes that they must know the risks. They keep on coming still, in the thousands.

Nobody wants them. On the high seas, ships pass them by (in flagrant violation of international law). There is no telling how many have already perished at sea—by drowning, by hunger and thirst, or by illness.

If they reach the coasts of one of the neighboring countries, they risk being pushed out to sea again at gun-point. Or they may be thrown into dismal camps, often after being robbed, beaten or raped. Only then do they have a chance—a very slim chance—of being selected for immigration to one of the Western countries.

The United States has continued to take

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range conservation of entire watersheds and ecosystems. In present form the bill would strongly protect 102 million acres. That is a total area larger than Minnesota and Wisconsin, mostly to be reserved in the "wilderness" category. On more millions of acres outside these boundaries—and under certain circumstances within them—there would be clear opportunity for careful development . . .

Federal lands in Alaska include large resources of timber, minerals, coal and oil. With new technology and high prices, they are an inviting "last frontier" for prospecting and development. They are also a spectacular and varied treasure of wildlife and wilderness: from rain forest in the southeast to Mt. McKinley in the interior, to the Brooks range and fragile tundra in the north. Both forms of wealth are vital to the nation. The question is how—if possible—to conserve the one without foregoing the other.

We think the Udall bill, taken together with administration proposals for amending it, gives the right answer. It is to keep development orderly and within limited areas that may only be expanded when the need is compelling. That protects against environmental waste that the nation would later regret—as has so often happened in the "lower 48." It also conserves not only scenery but a storehouse of economic resources which Americans may need much more in the future than they do now. In the perspective of decades or a century setting aside 100 million acres is only prudent. That is the long-range public interest which this year's legislation should reflect.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

(Mr. STOKES asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I think it appropriate that the House—and through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD interested citizens—be brought up to date on the general posture of the Select Committee on Assassinations and its structure in conducting its investigations into the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. For this purpose, I would like to insert into the RECORD an edited version of the report the Select Committee recently submitted to the Committee on House Administration when we proposed our budget for this year. The only material deleted from the report is statistical graphs that cannot be reproduced in the RECORD. Copies of the entire report may be obtained directly from the Select Committee's offices.

Reading the report, I think each Member of the House can be proud of the professional manner in which the Select Committee has conducted its business over the last several months. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, as personally important as I consider the investigation into the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. King, I believe the performance of the Select Committee represents an even larger issue to the House of Representatives. Ultimately, this committee will demonstrate that the House itself has the ability to conduct quietly a professionally sophisticated investigation. The ability of Congress to conduct such an investigation is of paramount importance to both the power and integrity of the House. As Harry S. Truman said in 1944 when he resigned as chairman of one of the exemplary investigating committees in the Senate:

In my opinion, the power of investigation is one of the most important powers of Congress. The manner in which the power is exercised will largely determine the position and prestige of the Congress in the future.

The Select Committee is conducting a responsible and professional investigation that will be a credit to the House and insure that the constitutional power of the House of Representatives to investigate is properly exercised.

— [Committee Print]

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION, TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSION OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED 1978 BUDGET TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

I. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND MANDATE

The Select Committee on Assassinations (the committee) was first established in the second session of the 94th Congress by House Resolution 1540, 122 Cong. Rec. 141 at H10350 (September 17, 1976). The 95th Congress reconstituted the committee by House Resolution 222, 123 Cong. Rec. 19 at H800 (February 2, 1977) and extended its duration for the length of the 95th Congress by House Resolution 433, 123 Cong. Rec. 58 at H2739 (March 30, 1977). House Resolution 760, 123 Cong. Rec. 153 at H10254 (September 28, 1977) granted the committee authority to make applications to courts for grants of immunity and other limited purposes, and to bring and defend lawsuits in particular types of cases in order to obtain information relevant to the committee's inquiry.

The legislative mandate of the select committee is primarily defined in House Resolution 222. The select committee has identified four main issues to be analyzed to fulfill its legislative mandate. First, who was or were the assassin(s) of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? Second, did the assassin(s) have any aid or assistance either before or after the assassination? Third, did the agencies and departments of the United States Government adequately perform their duties and functions in (a) collecting and sharing information prior to the assassinations, (b) protecting John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. and (c) conducting investigations into each assassination and coordinating the results of those investigations. Fourth, given the evidence the select committee has uncovered, is the amendment of existing legislation or the enactment of new legislation appropriate?

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE STAFF

The size of the committee staff has reached the level of 115 contemplated by the 1977 budget. It is envisioned that the number of personnel will remain at approximately 115 for most of 1978.

The organization of the staff is designed to facilitate the implementation of the investigative plans that have been formulated for each case. The chief counsel, who was appointed on July 1, 1977, heads the entire staff. The substantive investigation is divided into two task forces, one to investigate the death of President Kennedy and another to investigate the death of Dr. King. Each task force is headed by a deputy chief counsel and then further subdivided to focus on particular issues that have been identified. The 5 individual teams on each task force are composed of a combination of attorneys, investigators and researchers that work together on particular areas or issues.

III. CONDUCT OF COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Relationships with executive agencies and departments

The committee has obtained access to sizable amounts of materials from the files of executive agencies, including the FBI, CIA, Drug Enforcement Administration, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Treasury, Secret Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Internal Revenue Service, the Department of Defense and the State Department.[1] Much of this material has been sought not only to pursue investigative leads in the files of the Government but also to form a basis for evaluation of the performance of particular agencies both before and after the assassinations.

The committee has been in the process of reviewing the staggering number of agency files and documents available. For example, the National Archives, where most agencies that had generated information in 1963 concerning the Kennedy assassination deposited their files, currently possesses 357 cubic feet of files on that assassination. The FBI has made available to the committee files totaling 998 volumes and 47,304 serials. The CIA has given the committee access to approximately 2,800 files and 1,400 draft memoranda. In addition, the Secret Service, which conducted approximately 1,462 interviews, and generated 4,386 pages of reports and correspondence in its investigation of the Kennedy assassination, has granted the committee full access to all of the materials in its possession.

In general the select committee has received cooperation from the agencies to whom it has directed requests for information. The Drug Enforcement Administration, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Internal Revenue Service have fully and expeditiously complied with committee requests for information. The Justice Department has been particularly cooperative in facilitating the processing of committee requests in Federal court for grants of immunity for committee witnesses and in making available employees or former employees for interviews with the committee's staff.

In the case of the CIA, the FBI, and the Secret Service and Defense Department, which have larger amounts of material bearing on the committee's inquiry as well as peculiar institutional concerns, agency cooperation has been adequate but occasionally beset with bureaucratic or technical delays. The committee is currently discussing with each of these agencies ways in which access to information may be expedited and is encouraged by the progress made in those discussions.

B. Travel and interviews by the staff

Since the witnesses and potential witnesses concerning each assassination are numerous and located throughout the country, the staff of the committee has had to travel extensively to pursue its investigative theories and leads. As of December 31, 1977, the staff had conducted over 1,400 interviews.

The staff's travel schedule significantly increased as the committee became fully staffed and developed its particular investigative plans and theories.

C. Hearing and meeting schedules

As of December 31, 1977, the select committee had held 42 days of hearings and meetings, and had issued 103 subpoenas. It is anticipated that the committee will hold hearings in executive session approximately three times a week until summer. In the late summer or fall, the committee will hold

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public hearings on its investigation into each assassination. It is estimated there will be up to 20 days of public hearings held on each assassination. At the conclusion of the public hearings, and prior to the expiration of the current Congress, the select committee will file its final report with the House of Representatives.

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V. CONCLUSION

The committee is in the process of gathering evidence by field investigation and interviews, and the taking of testimony in executive session. Each investigation is following a carefully formulated and detailed plan designed to resolve significant issues concerning that assassination and to fulfill the committee's legislative mandate.

As the investigation proceeds, the committee is evaluating the credibility of witnesses who have appeared before it in executive session, and corroborating or disproving numerous allegations that have arisen concerning each assassination. Until such a process of evaluation and corroboration is complete, any conclusions on particular theories or investigative leads would be premature and inappropriate. The committee's proposed budget will enable the committee to implement its investigative plans, and ultimately to fulfill its legislative mandate.

CONGRESSMAN JAMES A. BURKE HONORED BY TEACHERS AND SENIOR CITIZENS

(Mr. ANNUNZIO asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. ANNUNZIO. Mr. Speaker, it is a genuine pleasure for me to congratulate our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Hon. JAMES A. BURKE, who is chairman of the Social Security Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, who is being honored for the outstanding leadership he has provided in efforts to improve the social security system.

Congressman BURKE long as favored a reduction in social security taxes, an increase in the wage base, and the use of general revenues to boost the financially plagued system.

In order to mark Mr. BURKE's special contributions in the social security field over the years, the Massachusetts' Council of Social Studies Teachers and the Golden Ring Council of Senior Citizens will honor him at a luncheon on Friday, March 3, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel.

At the luncheon, prizes will be awarded to 130 Massachusetts' students for writing winning essays on the topic, "How Does Social Security Fulfill the American Way of Life?" Congressman BURKE is honorary chairman of the social security essay contest for high school students which is sponsored by the Golden Ring Council, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Commonwealth Department of Education. Participation is limited to junior and senior Massachusetts' high school students who have spent about 4 months doing research before writing their essays. Prizes for the winning essays range from $25 to $300.

Assisting in the award presentations will be Congressman BURKE, Gov. Michael Dukakis, State Commissioner of Education Gregory Anrig, Acting Social Security Commissioner Don I. Wortman, former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Wilbur Cohen, former Commissioner of Social Security Robert M. Ball, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Sol Chaiken, and others.

Mr. BURKE has served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security ever since the various subcommittees were established for the Ways and Means Committee. He is respected and highly regarded for the expertise he has developed in this field, and he is truly deserving of the recognition which will be extended to him at the luncheon on Friday.

Once again, I extend to him my sincerest congratulations on this recognition and my best wishes for continued productive service in behalf of his constituents from the 11th District of Massachusetts as well as in behalf of all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to several previously scheduled meetings in my district with constituents, I unavoidably missed the legislative session of Friday, February 24, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: H.R. 9757, grazing fee moratorium of 1977, rollcall No. 83, "yes"; H.R. 3377, Wichita Indian Tribe lands claim, rollcall No. 85, "yes."

Due to my attending a hearing held in New York State by the Employee Ethics and Utilization Subcommittee of the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, of which I am a member, I missed a recorded quorum call and part of other legislative business scheduled for Monday, February 27, 1978. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: House Concurrent Resolution 464, home rule charter amendment for initiative and referendum (District of Columbia) rollcal No. 87, "yes."

On Friday, January 20, 1978, I was out of the country on official business with Committee on International Relations, of which I am a member, and missed that day's legislative session. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following fashion: H.R. 2329, Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1977, rollcall No. 3, "yes."

FULL RECOGNITION OF RED CHINA IS NOT ADVANTAGEOUS TO UNITED STATES

(Mr. SIKES asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD and to include extraneous matter.)

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, the drive to have the United States give full recognition to Red China and abandon our strong and productive ties with Taiwan seems to have abated. Normalization of relations with China is not of particular importance to the United States. Our commerce with that country is limited. There is little to indicate any significant growth in trade between us.

Apart from trade, the moral principle involved if the United States were to abandon an old and friendly ally simply to win the favor of one Communist regime is unthinkable. Normal relations with China should depend entirely on the benefits, if any, to be gained directly from our association with Red China and upon application of Mr. Carter's vaunted human rights program.

With U.S. ties, friendship and support, Japan, Taiwan, and Korea stand as significant bastions of the free enterprise system. Each of them has standards of living far higher than any Asian Communist country. The rights of the people in each of the three, despite critical comment from the American left, are clearly more real than any rights claimed for the nations under Communist control.

An article in the New York Times, February 14, entitled "Now, 'Boat People' From Taiwan?" by Peter Berger deals in a very impresive way with the moral as well as the practical story of Taiwan and our relations with the entire area. I submit it for reprinting in the RECORD:

[From the New York Times, Feb. 14, 1978]

NOW, "BOAT PEOPLE" FROM TAIWAN?

(By Peter Berger)

Week after week, the small boats come out of southern Vietnam. Their cargo of desperation is a cross-section of the people. Half are children. The adults are young and old, professionals and peasants, former supporters of the regime of President Nguyen Van Thieu and individuas whose politics are limited to the desire to escape from the steel blanket of totalitarianism spread over their country since "liberation." One supposes that they must know the risks. They keep on coming still, in the thousands.

Nobody wants them. On the high seas, ships pass them by (in flagrant violation of international law). There is no telling how many have already perished at sea—by drowning, by hunger and thirst, or by illness.

If they reach the coasts of one of the neighboring countries, they risk being pushed out to sea again at gun-point. Or they may be thrown into dismal camps, often after being robbed, beaten or raped. Only then do they have a chance—a very slim chance—of being selected for immigration to one of the Western countries.

The United States has continued to take